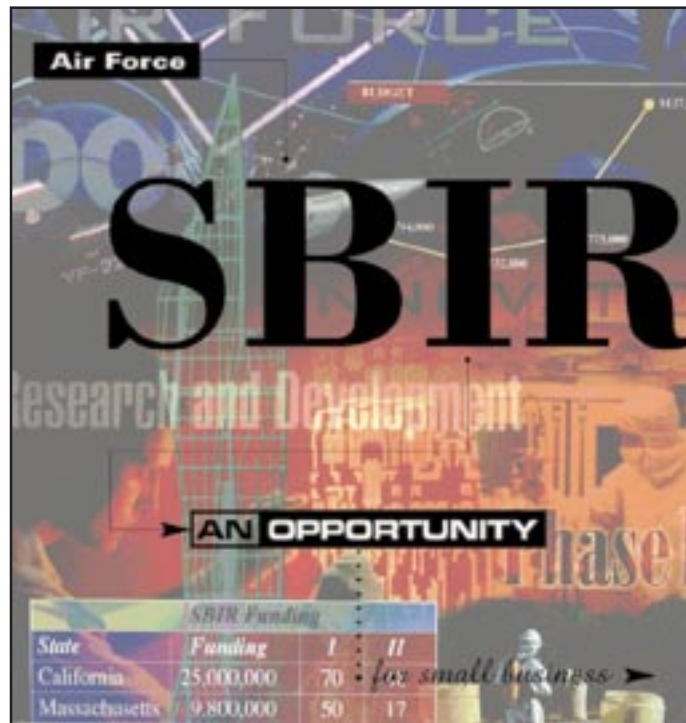




# MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURING DIRECTORATE Hosts SBIR INDUSTRY DAY

4



## Payoff

The annual Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Industry Day provided company representatives the opportunity to meet one-on-one with Air Force points of contact in an effort to help the companies submit stronger, more competitive SBIR proposals, which in turn will provide the Air Force with cost-effective technical and scientific solutions to challenging problems.

## Accomplishment

Scientists and engineers from the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate (ML) hosted representatives of small businesses at the annual SBIR Industry Day. Using a unique one-on-one format, researchers presented 30 topics for aerospace materials research and development that require innovative solutions. Information learned at this meeting will help company representatives submit stronger, more competitive SBIR proposals, which in turn will provide the Air Force with cost-effective technical and scientific solutions to challenging problems.

## Background

The SBIR program is a federal program designed to stimulate technological innovation among small, private-sector businesses while providing the government cost-effective technical and scientific solutions to challenging problems. Under the SBIR program, qualified small businesses compete for research dollars to propose innovative concepts to help meet research and development requiring increased emphasis. Small businesses play a key role in developing critical technology innovations for many agencies of the Department of Defense. The Air Force benefits when small businesses develop materials and manufacturing processes and products such as carbon-carbon materials for electronic packaging, single crystal silicon carbide semiconductors, diamond-coated ball bearings, compact blue polymer wave guide lasers, computer software for hyperbaric medicine systems and carbon-carbon cases for sodium-sulfur batteries.